



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Unrestrained Fatalities on Alabama Highways Rise in September

MONTGOMERY – Crash activity reports from the Alabama Department of Public Safety (DPS) show the number of people who died in vehicle crashes where seat belts were available and were not wearing seat belts increased slightly from August.

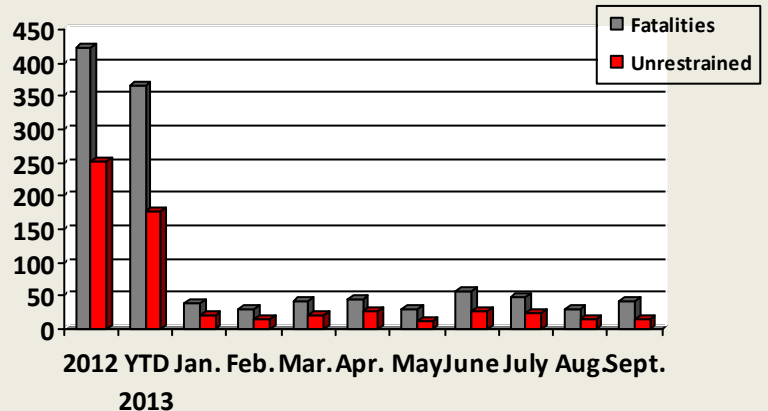
According to preliminary traffic crash data, there were 41 people killed in vehicle crashes investigated by Alabama State Troopers in September 2013, up from 30 in August. Of the September number, 33 were in vehicles where seat belts were available, and 15 victims were not wearing seat belts, up from 14 in August.

The latest information from DPS shows 367 people have been killed thus far in 2013, a decrease of 17 from the same time period in 2012. However, of the 367 crash victims this year, 302 were in vehicles where seat belts were available, but 178 victims were not restrained.

Data from September includes travel during the Labor Day holiday period.

Preliminary data from traffic crashes investigated by state troopers indicates 59 percent of all persons killed in 2012 were not wearing seat belts at the time of their deaths. Crash data from crashes investigated by local law enforcement won't be compiled until later this year.

DPS and ALDOT jointly release to the public each month the number of unrestrained fatalities in crashes investigated by troopers in an effort to improve seat belt use and decrease deaths on Alabama highways.



For additional information, visit www.dot.state.al.us or www.dps.alabama.gov.

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